Jammu and Kashmir, as per 1991 census was 56,681,640. However, the information with regard to population of senior citizens suffering from mental health problems, is not available.

Abolition of Scavenging

†595. SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the practice of scavenging is still prevalent in many parts of the country;

(b) if so, what are details thereof; and

(c) by when Government would abolish this abominable practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) A statement is enclosed. (*see* below)

(c) The Government proposes to abolish this practice by the end of 9th Five Year Plan.

Statement

States/UTs where scavenging is prevalent

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Assam
3. Bihar
4. Gujarat
5. Haryana
6. Himachal Pradesh
7. Jammu & Kashmir
8. Karnataka
9. Kerala
10. Madhya Pradesh
11. Maharashtra

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

12. Meghalaya
13. Nagaland
14. Orissa
15. Punjab
16. Rajasthan
17. Tamil Nadu
18. Tripura
19. Uttar Pradesh
20. West Bengal
21. National Capital Territory of Delhi
22. Pondicherry

Residential schools/educational institutions for SCs and STs

596. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to encourage the residential schools and educational institutions for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, whether Government would share 50 per cent of the expenditure incurred in construction and maintenance of the schools as also share 50 per cent expenditure incurred on primary education for SCs and STs; and

(c) the decision of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Government encourages establishment of residential schools for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students. For setting up of such schools the following schemes are being implemented:—

1. Central Sector Scheme of Special Educational Development Programme for SC girls belonging to very low literacy levels.